

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, re-examination and reconsideration of the subject matter identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, and in light of the remarks which follow, are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 60 have been amended to recite that "the binder is a (co)polymer of a monomer having two or more ethylenic unsaturated groups, and the monomer having two or more ethylenic unsaturated groups is an ester of a polyalcohol and a (meth)acrylic acid." These amendments are supported by the specification, at least page 24, lines 1-9. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 2-5. Further, claim 60 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 61-64. Claims 2-10 and 61-69 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 11, 12, 14-29, 32-39 and 46-59 were previously cancelled. No new matter has been added.

Upon entry of the Amendment, Claims 1, 13, 30, 31, 40-45 and 60 will be all the claims pending in the application.

I. Response to Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) & 103(a)

Claims 1-10, 13 and 60-69 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over WO 2004/017105 to Matsunaga et al., as evidenced by U.S. Patent No. 4,692,492 to Gunesin. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 13 and 60 as amended are novel and patentable over Matsunaga et al. as evidenced by Gunesin for at least the following reasons.

Independent claims 1 and 60 recite an antireflection film, wherein, among others, a low-reflective index layer comprises a specific silicone compound and a specific binder which is a (co)polymer of a monomer having two or more ethylenic unsaturated groups, and the monomer

having two or more ethylenic unsaturated groups is an ester of a polyalcohol and a (meth)acrylic acid.

As demonstrated in the present specification, by using the recited binder and silicone compound (the compound lowering surface energy), various performances can be improved. For example, Sample No. 003 uses, for low-refractive index layer, original coating solution B which contains DPHA (an example of the recited binder) and RMS-033 (an example of the silicone compound), and provides best results in terms of overall performances (Tables 1 and 4).

On the other hand, Matsunaga et al. uses a fluorine-containing copolymer, which is different from the presently recited binder, in the low-refractive index layer (pages 135-136). Matsunaga et al. fails to disclose or suggest, as a binder in a low-refractive index layer, the presently recited binder which is a (co)polymer of a monomer having two or more ethylenic unsaturated groups, the monomer being an ester of a polyalcohol and a (meth)acrylic acid. Furthermore, Matsunaga et al. does not disclose or suggest controlling the ratio Si/C in the range recited in present claim 1.

Gunesin is cited merely as teaching a silicone-based compound with low surface free energy. As Gunesin does not rectify the above noted deficiencies of Matsunaga et al., the combination of Gunesin and Matsunaga et al. still would not result in the subject matter of the present claims. Moreover, none of Gunesin and Matsunaga et al. discloses or suggests the above noted results which can be achieved in the presently claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 13 and 60 are patentable over Matsunaga et al. as evidenced by Gunesin, and thus the rejection should be withdrawn.

II. Conclusion

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order and such action is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions


concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at his earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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